

REMARKS

Summary

Claims 1-13 were pending. Claims 1-9 and 11-13 were rejected and Claim 10 was objected to in the present Office action. Claims 1, 4, and 11 have been amended and Claim 3 has been cancelled. No new matter has been added.

Claim Objections

Claim 10 was objected to as being dependent on a rejected base claim, but the Examiner indicated that it would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. The Applicant expresses appreciation to the Examiner for the indication of allowable subject matter, but respectfully declines to make this amendment as, as a result of the amendment to Claim 1, the base claim is now allowable.

Claim Rejections

35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Claims 1-5, 7-9 and 11-13 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Holzermer et al. (DE 4325526; "Holzermer") in view of Schmitt (DE 4311702; "Schmitt"). The Applicant believes that the Examiner's characterization of the reference can be successfully traversed, however, in the interests to expediting the issuance a patent in this matter, Claim 1 has been amended to describe the claimed subject matter in more detail.

Amended Claim 1 recites, *inter alia*, a support arm fixedly secured about a horizontal axis to the mounting device, such that the x-ray source is secured, rotatably about a substantially horizontal axis, to the support arm.

The Examiner asserts that Holzermer teaches a holder including a mounting device (#1) and a support arm (#4) secured to the mounting device. The Applicant respectfully submits that Holzermer teaches that the support arm (#4) is mounted so as to be pivotable about its longitudinal axis (#5) on one end (#2) of the longitudinal the

column (#1) [the mounting device part of the holder #1 as characterized by the Examiner]. (Holznermer, Abstract).

Amended Claim 1 recites an arrangement where the support arm is fixedly secured about a horizontal axis to the mounting device. Therefore, the reference does not teach all of the aspects of the amended claim, and nothing cited in Schmitt remedies this deficiency. As such, the combination of the references does not teach or suggest all of the elements and limitations of the present Claim 1, and the claim is therefore allowable. Claims 2 and 4-10 are claims dependent on an allowable claim and are allowable, without more.

Claim 11 is amended similarly to Claim 1 and is allowable for the same reasons. Claims 12 and 13 are claims dependent on an allowable claim and are allowable, without more.

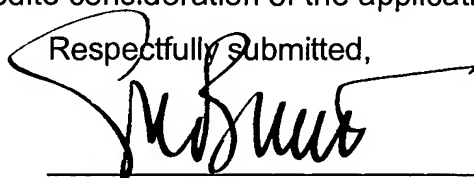
Conclusion

Claims 1, 2 and 4-13 are pending.

For at least the reasons given above, the Applicant respectfully submits that the pending claims are allowable and looks forward to the early issuance of a Notice of Allowance.

The Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned in the event that a telephone interview would expedite consideration of the application.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sid Bennett', is written over a horizontal line.

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